

**CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2014
TACTICAL TRAINING CENTER**

Present were Mayor Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor Pro Tempore Terry J. Henley, and Aldermen Steven H. Bezner, John F. Isbell, Sr., Kelle K. Mills and Rick J. Staigle. Also present was Administrative Clerk Amy C. Duncan.

1. Call to Order:

Mayor Jessup called the workshop to order at 10:00 a.m. Aldermen Bezner, Isbell, and Mills were present to make quorum. Alderman Rick Staigle arrived at 10:03 a.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Terry J. Henley arrived at 10:09 a.m.

2. Discussion - Kirkwood Road Reconstruction Project:

a. Educating the Public

Mayor Jessup distributed a reference packet for Council members take home to read over. He noted he had spoken to 20-25 mayors from around the country to hear opinions and feedback from roundabout education. Alderman Bezner inquired if any of them had experienced opposition and if a non-bidding vote could be presented to the public. Alderman Staigle pointed out that it was not lawful for the City to have one, since we are a general law city. Mayor Jessup noted it would be helpful to have public hearings and asked the Council to look at Wisconsin Roundabout Calm Traffic Improve School Zone Safety. He then provided a summary of the report, which included the approach that was taking to implement a roundabout. The report included how the public was against it with concerns of it increasing traffic and decreasing driver safety. He recommending focusing on educating the public to calm fears and distributed a list per the article that showed citizens education, information, and presents alternatives. Alderman Bezner commented there were be a "speedway," since there were no traffic control devices on Kirkwood. Alderman Mills pointed out that citizens had never been presented alternatives and that's why there may have been oppositions. Mayor Jessup recommended the City focus on this education process to make sure the public knows of the alternatives. Alderman Isbell noted outside opinions and information to support roundabouts from out-of-area or out-of-state.

Mayor Jessup presented a list from another mayor of his roundabout experience noting increases in flow, improves safety, reduces vehicle speeds, and creates an attractive environment for the City with the ability to increase substantial green-space. Alderman Staigle encouraged the Council to educate the public with the pros and cons of each sound options and how much green space will be added or taken away to the area. He suggested completing an environmental study with the TIP Fund, which would not be available until 2017-2018. Mayor Jessup requested to table the funding discussion until the next line item.

Mayor Jessup introduced a study from HGAC by TTI; an independent study completed by Texas A & M. He noted the findings of this study. Alderman Staigle noted the wording of the study in regards to stop signs could make the City liable. Mayor Jessup pointed to page 4 of the report that stop signs should not be used as speed control. Alderman Staigle pointed that the stop-signs should be used to determine right-of-way. Mayor Jessup noted daily traffic volume of 10,000-12,000 a day. This is one half of a single lane roundabout capacity.

Alderman Staigle pointed out that any work performed would need to meet current codes and the original signs were not installed based on any study. He presented a traffic module simulation of how the roundabout would work.

Sidebar - Dorrance will be resurfaced with asphalt from Bloomington to Kirkwood Road.

Mayor Jessup requested the Council look at "Small Town Roundabouts" and the Public Works Department had a 4-1 for in favor of roundabouts.

Alderman Isbell noted a PowerPoint cohesive presentation should be presented to the public. Alderman Bezner noted it should be presented as a problem that needs a solution - deteriorating roads. A General Law City was not allowed to install stop signs because they are not recognized by the State of Texas as a traffic control device.

Who do we need to educate? Employees, Boards & Commissions, Organizations, and Residents.

Mayor Jessup notes about come and go meetings where you have four (4) stations. Mayor Pro Tempore Henley pointed that it was feasible to have four (4) roundabouts in a row. Mayor Jessup suggested Imagination Monkey present a rollout plan to the public.

Alderman Staigle pointed out that roundabouts were typically put in more affluent areas. He suggested informing the public will help put us aside in the scheme of things. Mayor Pro Tempore Henley noted it would increase property values for the aesthetic appeal. Mayor Jessup noted that AARP supported them because they are safer for seniors and it may be good to note.

Who will educate? List in the "How" Section was reviewed.

List the Where:

Alderman Bezner suggesting setting up tables at Baseball games or in the community.

Alderman Staigle pointed out the physical topographic surveys for the areas with four (4) to five (5) houses were in the way of the roundabout. He noted the City could acquire easements via permission or buy the owners out. He recommend the City complete a survey after until the West Airport Boulevard Reconstruction Project was finished. Mayor Pro Tem Henley inquired if previous aerial drawings would suffice. Alderman Staigle said yes although it is existing data, it would be more accurate to get the most current data available. When: If we get engineers and options on board, it will take approximately six (6) months until presenting to the public. Options: roundabouts, nothing, and a signal at Dorrance.

Mayor Jessup also asked if three (3) would work, and Rick said yes. Alderman Staigle volunteered to draft the letter to contact engineering firm and meet with Chris Hill, Imagination

Monkey, on how to construction presentation. Mayor Jessup suggested meeting with him at a workshop then coming back for a more detailed meeting.

b. Funding Sources

Alderman Staigle noted 1.5 million from County as a part of the County Mobility Bond, which could be spent on engineering but they prefer it on construction. He said he would prefer to use EDC money for design and the County money on the construction with the construction being 1.8 - 2.5 million. He added the option of general obligation bonds with the EDC will be dedicated to pay it back over time. Mayor Pro Tempore asked about any utility impact to which Alderman Staigle said it would be minimal. He added that design would be need to be budgeted for FY16 and construction FY17.

c. Roll Out Dates

It would take at least a year or so for design approval and then a certain time period for bidding.

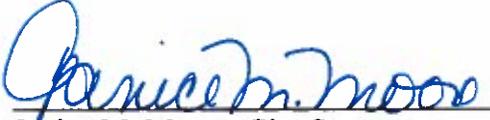
3. Adjournment

Mayor Jessup adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

**These minutes were approved by the
City Council on Tuesday, December 16, 2014.**

Transcribed by Administrative Assistant Amy C. Duncan

ATTEST:



Janice M. Moore, City Secretary



Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

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